

100 The Enchanted Castle.

land, they call a gulf: a bay is a gulf that has a capacious mouth: the Archipelago is a sea in which there are a number of islands: a Streight is a passage between one sea and another: a Lake is a body of water, surrounded on all sides by the land; and a River is water which is continually running. Take notice of this, children.

*Miss Julia.* Yes, Mademoiselle: a Gulf is a part of the sea which runs into the land; as the Gulf of Venice: a Streight is an arm of the sea which joins two seas together; as the Streights of Gibraltar, which join the main ocean to the Mediterranean Sea.

*Mademoiselle.* Very well: they call that a Streight also which is bound in by two lands. Look at the map; between the island of Corsica, and the island of Sardinia, you see there is a little arm of the sea. It is called the Streights of Boniface.

*Miss Sprightly.* Pray, Mademoiselle, why is the narrow part of the sea which  
is

The Enchanted

is between Italy and Sicily: the Straits of Messina? What is the word Pharos?

*Mademoiselle.* I don't understand my dear; and this word is not in the Greek language. But I am not able to find out the meaning of the word. I am sure you are out at sea cannot come to the distance of land without a light. It is therefore put on the map to give notice that land is not far off. I cautions the sailors from running near. Ptolemy, one of the ancients of Egypt, built such a beautiful tower, that it was reckoned one of the seven wonders of the world. It was placed upon the top of the mountain, so that the ships during the night could see that time they have been in the sea, and it is from one of these lights that the Straits of Messina, that this light has its name. We may therefore say that the word Pharos signifies a light for the ships in the night.